Name of the State/UT	1996-97		1997-98		1998-99	
	Violations Detected	Prosecutions launched	Violations Detected	Prosecutions launched	Violations Detected	Prosecutions launched
Maharashtra	97	2	605	389	1913	17
Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
Orissa	186	2	353	9	127	128
Punjab	15	12	22	24	8	5
Pondicherry	0	0	0	0	—	—
Rajasthan	0	16	0	891	0	601
Tamil Nadu	18	34	5	69	242	241
Tripura	0	0	0	0	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	264	249	—	—	—	—

Inspections, Prosecutions and convictions under Minimum Wages Act

2354. SHRI C. O. POULOSE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of inspections, prosecutions, and convictions under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 for the last three years in the country; and

(b) what are the steps Government intend to take to see that every worker in the country in scheduled employment gets minimum wage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) A Statement showing number of inspections, prosecutions and convictions in the central sphere during the last three years *i.e.*, 1997, 1998 and 1999 is enclosed (*See* below).

(b) Under the Minimum Wages Act, both Central and State Governments are appropriate Governments for fixation/revision of minimum wages and enforcement of the provisions under the Act. The enforcement is secured at two levels i.e., State level and Central level. For the employments under Central sphere, the compliance is secured through inspections by the officers of the Central Industrial Relations Machinery. Similarly, in the state sphere, inspections are conducted by the state enforcement machinery. The Inspectors declared under the Act conduct regular inspections of various establishments and take necessary action in respect of irregularities detected. In case of claims, the defaulters are advised to make up the short fall in payments and if they fail, prosecution cases are initiated against them.

Statement

The number of inspections, prosecutions and convictions during the years 1997, 1998 and 1999

Year	No. of Inspections	No. of Prosecutions	No. of Convictions
1997	12,340	5,084	3,270
1998	11,547	4,673	2,325
1999	8,798	3,961	1,359

*Figures are provisional

Comprehensive Labour Policy

†2355. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal for preparing a new comprehensive employment and labour policy is under Government's consideration;

(b) if so, what are the main features of the new employment and labour policy;

(c) the date from which it is proposed to implement the new policy; and

(d) what positive steps have been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (d) Review and updating of Labour Policy is a continuous process to make it in consonance with emerging needs. The thrust of the labour Policy during the 9th Five Year Plan is on consolidation of the base created through tripartism for maintaining industrial peace and harmony. The thrust of employment policy during the 9th Five Year Plan is to generate greater productive employment in the process of growth by concentrating on sectors, sub-sectors and technologies which are labour intensive. There are also special programmes to promote employment, develop skills, enhance technological levels and strengthen infrastructure.

Journalist and Non-Journalist Employees of Visual Media

2356. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.